

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance of the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

In the present Official Action, Claims 16-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Further, in the office action, Claims 2 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-44 were further rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatenable over Marsh et al. (US Patent Pub. No. 2004/0125129) (hereinafter “Marsh”) in view of a reference to Rosenberg et al. entitled “A Framework for Conferencing with the Session Initiation Protocol” (“Rosenberg”).

With respect to the rejections of Claim 16-34 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter, applicants have deleted claims 16-34 without prejudice and add a new Claim 45 in its place.

With respect to the rejection of Claims 2 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite, applicants amend each of Claims 2 and 36 to positively recite the steps of controlling data feed configurations and broadcasting data content from said feeds that are repeated for each successively activated phase. Respectfully, no new matter is being entered and the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

With respect to the rejections of Claims 1-44 as allegedly being unpatenable over Marsh in view of Rosenberg, applicants respectfully disagree.

In particular, in response, applicants cancel each of independent Claims 1, 16 and 35 and wholly incorporate the subject matter of each into respective Claims 4, 25 and 38, each now re-cast in independent form. While the current claims 4, 25 and 38 have been rejected, applicants add several other limitations neither taught nor suggested by the combination of Marsh and Rosenberg whether taken alone or in combination. Particularly, amended Claim 4 now sets forth additional novel features as shown underlined as follows:

A method for conducting an online multi-speaker presentation comprising:

receiving a presentation agenda that specifies a plurality of phases, each phase having a speaker for presenting in a pre-specified order; said agenda including a policy for coordinating data feeds to one or more client devices according to an activated phase;

controlling data feed configurations associated with each phase by activating data feed controls at times associated with an active agenda phase policy; and,

broadcasting data content from said feeds associated with a current phase to one or more connected client devices, whereby many users of the on-line meeting participate according to feed policies specified by said agenda without users at the client devices having to explicitly select or coordinate the feed controls during the presentation,

generating a graphic representation of the instant state of the presentation, whereby the graphic representation includes a depiction of a current phase and all active users attending the presentation;

providing, in said graphical representation, an overview of said presentation agenda as a linear progression of each said plurality of phases in accordance with said pre-

specified order, and graphically depicting within said representation all said active users and an indication of an activity level of each said active users, said level of activity including representing a given active user's focus of attention by indicating which presentation section each user is currently viewing, including prior, current and future phases of said agenda; and,

forwarding said representation to active users at said one or more client devices, each said one or more client devices adapted for receiving and displaying said graphic representation.

Claims 25 and 38 have been similarly amended.

Respectfully, no new matter is being entered by this amendment as clear support for the additional limitations can be found in the diagram provided in Fig. 5 of the present specification depicting an example graphical user interface (GUI) implemented according to an embodiment of the invention. For example, the new heretofore unclaimed recitations now incorporated in each of amended Claims 4, 25 and 38 directed to providing, in said graphical representation, an overview of said presentation agenda as a linear progression of each said plurality of phases in accordance with said pre-specified order, and graphically depicting within said representation all said active users and an indication of an activity level of each said active users, said level of activity including representing a given active user's focus of attention by indicating which presentation section each user is currently viewing, including prior, current and future phases of said agenda; is clearly shown in Fig. 5 and described in the present specification at paragraphs [0035]-[0037].

For instance, in support of these added limitations, the GUI shown in Fig. 5 illustrates an example display depicting an overview of the presentation agenda as a linear progression of each said plurality of phases of the agenda steps including each of the meeting's

phases 7090 - 7120, including an indication of the current phase (i.e., the expanded size of 7100 and the highlighting of 7060), as well as the links between the phases (7130, 7140, 7150), and, an indication of the level of activity of the participants in each of the phases (at Fig. 5, 7160, 7170, 7180, 7190). For instance, as described in the specification at paragraph [0037] in support of Figure 5, three (3) users 7170, 7180, and 7190 are graphically represented as attending the current phase of the presentation 7100. User 7180 is displayed in the center of that graphically depicted phase depicting his/her role as speaker, for example. User 7190 is depicted near the outer edge of the circle, for example, indicating that he/she is in a dormant or listening state. User 7170 is near the inner edge of the circle, indicating that he/she is active or recently active. The example graphical agenda representation of Fig. 5, further shows this user 7170 with a graphical indication, e.g., a 'flag' 7200 attached to it, which indicates that this person has requested a question and would like to be called upon to speak when there is an opportune time in the presentation. The 'flag' 7200 might also be used to signify other kinds of intentions such as an affirmative vote. As a further example depicting an indication of an activity level of each said active users, the level of activity including representing a given active user's focus of attention by indicating which presentation section each user is currently viewing, including prior, current and future phases of said agenda, Fig. 5 shows User 7160 within a first (prior) phase one 7090, indicating that he/she is reviewing material presented in an earlier phase.

It is respectfully submitted that while Marsh appears to provide a GUI which provides a graphic representation of each step of a given meeting (Marsh et al. Figs 2 and 8), Marsh does not provide a representation of an overview of the presentation agenda as a linear progression of each said plurality of phases (as in applicants' Fig 5). That is, no such overview is provided by either March nor Rosenberg. Further, neither Marsh, nor Rosenberg provide

indication of the level of activity of the participants in each of the phases, as does the present invention (e.g., Fig 5, graphic elements 7170 - 7190). Moreover, there appears no teaching or suggestion in either of these references that would lead one skilled in the art to procure such graphic representation of the presentation overview including an indication of an activity level of each said active users, the level of activity including representing a given active user's focus of attention by indicating which presentation section each user is currently viewing, including prior, current and future phases of said agenda.

In view of the cancellation of Claim1, the dependencies of each of Claims 2, 3 and 13 are being amended. In view of the cancellation of Claim16, the dependencies of each of Claims 17 and 19 are being amended. Further, recitations in Claim 20 are being amended to conform with the amendment to Claim 25. In view of the cancellation of Claim35, the dependencies of each of Claims 36-37 are being amended.

Consequently, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of amended independent Claims 4, 25 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over the Marsh, whether taken alone or in combination with Rosenberg, and to allow remaining claims directly or indirectly dependent thereof to proceed to issuance.

New Claim 45 is being added in replacement of the rejected claims 16-34. New Claim 45 is directed to a method of deploying a computer program product for conducting an online multi-speaker presentation, wherein, when executed, the computer program performs the steps as claimed in Claim 1 in its amended form. As new Claim 45 is directed to a method of deploying a computer program product, it is deemed to comprise statutory subject matter. No new matter is being entered as full support for this "service" type claim can be found in the

specification, e.g., paragraphs [0039] that speaks to one embodiment of the invention implemented as a web-based service.

In view of the foregoing, this application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference might expedite prosecution of this case, it is respectfully requested that he call the applicant's attorney at (516) 742-4343.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Fischman", followed by a horizontal line.

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